

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data processing apparatus comprising:

processing means, for performing processes related to multiple functions;

5 allocation means, for allocating, to said multiple processes, different codes for performing said multiple processes; and

control means, for controlling said processing means to perform said processes in accordance with the codes allocated by said allocation means,

10 wherein said allocation means allocates a predetermined code for a specific process of said multiple processes, and allocates a code, other than said predetermined code, for processes other than said specific process.

2. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said allocation means includes:

20 change means, for changing said predetermined code to be allocated to said specific process,

wherein said predetermined code is changed in accordance with a change operation performed by said change means.

25 3. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said allocation means changes, for each allocation operation, codes to be allocated for the

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processes other than said specific process.

4. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said allocation means includes:

5 setting means, for setting the number of digits
for a code composed of multiple numerical digits,
 wherein a code having said number of digits that
is set is allocated for processes other than said
specific process.

10 5. A data processing apparatus according to claim
4, wherein said setting means is capable of setting,
from among multiple sets of the numbers of digits, the
number of digits for corresponding users.

15 6. A data processing apparatus according to claim
1, wherein, during the allocation process performed for
allocating a code other than said predetermined code,
when a predetermined period of time has not elapsed
20 since the time a code has been allocated that is the
same as a code to be allocated, said allocation means
changes the number of digits of a code set by said
setting means and allocates said code.

25 7. A data processing apparatus according to claim
1, wherein, from among said multiple processes, said
allocation means allocates a predetermined code for a

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process having a high use frequency, and a code other than said predetermined code for a process having a low use frequency.

5 8. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said allocation means manually sets a code for a specific process of said multiple processes, and in accordance with the number order, allocates to processes other than said specific process codes other than said manually set code.

10 9. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
 input means, for manually entering an arbitrary code,

15 wherein said control means controls said processing means for performing said processes in accordance with said code allocated by said allocation means and said code entered by said code input means.

20 10. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
 input means, for entering data,
 wherein said processing means processes said data entered by said input means.

25 11. A data processing apparatus according to

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16. A data processing apparatus according to
claim 10, wherein said input means receives image data
and said multiple processes include a process for
outputting said image data to at least one of printing
5 means, display means and reproduction means.

17. A data processing apparatus according to
claim 16, wherein said input means receives image data
from a storage medium on which said image data is
10 stored.

18. A data processing apparatus according to
claim 1, further comprising:

protocol communication means, for performing
15 protocol communication with an external device,
wherein said specific process includes a process
for outputting to said display means, via said protocol
communication means, information related to an
operation panel used to operate said external device.

19. A data processing apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said specific process includes a
process for the allocation of a code by said allocation
20 means.

20. A data processing apparatus according to
claim 1, further comprising:

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display output means, for outputting, to said display means, code information that correlates said multiple processes with codes allocated by said allocation means.

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21. A data processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

printing output means for outputting, to printing means, code information that correlates said multiple processes with codes allocated by said allocation means.

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22. A data processing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein said printing output means outputs said code information to said printing means at a predetermined time.

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23. A data processing method comprising the steps of:

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allocating different codes to multiple processes related to multiple functions in order to perform said multiple processes; and

performing said multiple processes in accordance with said different codes allocated by said allocation means,

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wherein, at said allocation step, a predetermined code is allocated for a specific process of said

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multiple processes, and a code, other than said predetermined code, is allocated for processes other than said specific process.

5 24. A television signal receiving apparatus comprising:

 reception means, for receiving a television signal;

 processing means, for performing multiple
10 processes related to multiple functions;

 allocation means, for allocating, to said multiple processes, different codes for performing said multiple processes; and

 control means, for controlling said processing
15 means to perform said processes in accordance with codes allocated by said allocation means,

 wherein said allocation means allocates a predetermined code for a specific process of said multiple processes, and allocates a code, other than
20 said predetermined code, for processes other than said specific process.

 25. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said allocation means
25 includes:

 change means, for changing said predetermined code to be allocated to said specific process,

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wherein said predetermined code is changed in accordance with a change operation performed by said change means.

5 26. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said allocation means changes, for each allocation operation, codes to be allocated for the processes other than said specific process.

10 27. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said allocation means includes:

15 setting means, for setting the number of digits for a code composed of multiple numerical digits,

 wherein a code having said number of digits that is set is allocated for processes other than said specific process.

20 28. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said setting means is capable of setting, from among multiple sets of the numbers of digits, the number of digits for corresponding users.

25 29. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, wherein, during the allocation

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process performed for allocating a code other than said predetermined code, when a predetermined period of time has not elapsed since the time a code has been allocated that is the same as a code to be allocated, said allocation means changes the number of digits of a code set by said setting means and allocates said code.

30. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, wherein, from among said multiple processes, said allocation means allocates a predetermined code for a process having a high use frequency, and a code other than said predetermined code for a process having a low use frequency.

31. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said allocation means manually sets a code for a specific process of said multiple processes, and in accordance with the number order, allocates to processes other than said specific process codes other than said manually set code.

32. A television signal receiving apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising:

input means, for manually entering an arbitrary code,

wherein said control means controls said processing means for performing said processes in

accordance with said code allocated by said allocation means and said code entered by said code input means.

33. A television signal receiving apparatus
5 according to claim 24, wherein said multiple processes include a process for the selection of a channel to which a television signal received from said reception means is transmitted.

34. A television signal receiving apparatus
10 according to claim 33, wherein in response to said selection, said allocation means allocates, as said code, the same number as the number of said channel.

35. A television signal receiving apparatus
15 according to claim 33, wherein said specific process includes said channel selection, and the processes other than said specific process include at least either a reservation for recording a program related to
20 said program data or an audiovideo reservation.

36. A television signal receiving apparatus
according to claim 24, wherein said television signal is transmitted by digital TV broadcasting.

37. A television signal receiving apparatus
25 according to claim 24, wherein said multiple processes

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include at least one of the transmission/reception of
e-mail data, the browsing of the WWW (World Wide Web),
the editing of image data obtained by a digital camera,
and the display of an operation panel for the operation
of an external device via protocol communication means.

38. A television signal receiving apparatus
according to claim 24, wherein said specific process
includes a process for the allocation of a code by said
allocation means.

39. A television signal receiving apparatus
according to claim 24, further comprising:

display output means, for outputting, to said
display means, code information that correlates said
multiple processes with codes allocated by said
allocation means.

40. A television signal receiving apparatus
according to claim 24, further comprising:

printing output means for outputting, to printing
means, code information that correlates said multiple
processes with codes allocated by said allocation
means.

41. A television signal receiving apparatus
according to claim 40, wherein said printing output

means outputs said code information to said printing means at a predetermined time.

42. A television signal receiving apparatus

5 according to claim 24, further comprising:

search means, for searching, in accordance with a predetermined search condition, for a program related to a television signal received by said reception means,

10 wherein said allocation means allocates a code other than said predetermined code to at least either the reservation of the recording of said program found by said search means, or an audiovideo reservation.

15 43. A data processing system comprising:

processing means, for performing multiple processes related to multiple functions;

20 allocation means, for allocating, to said multiple processes, different codes for performing said multiple processes;

printing means, for printing said allocated codes in correlation with said multiple processes;

code input means, for manually entering codes; and control means for performing said processes in

25 accordance with said codes allocated by said allocation means and said codes entered by said code input means,

wherein said allocation means allocates a

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predetermined code for a specific process of said multiple processes, and allocates codes other than said predetermined code for processes other than said specific process.

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44. A data processing system according to claim 43, wherein said allocation means includes:

change means, for changing said predetermined code to be allocated to said specific process,

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wherein said predetermined code is changed in accordance with a change operation performed by said change means.

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45. A data processing system according to claim 43, wherein said allocation means changes, for each allocation operation, codes to be allocated for the processes other than said specific process.

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46. A data processing system according to claim 43, wherein said allocation means manually sets a code for a specific process of said multiple processes, and in accordance with the number order, allocates to processes other than said specific process codes other than said manually set code.

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47. A data processing system according to claim 42, wherein, when a code is entered to said input means

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while said processing means is performing a process,
said processing means performs a process corresponding
to said input code.

5 48. A data processing system according to claim
43, wherein said multiple processes include at least
one of selection of a channel related to a television
signal, timer reservation of a program, the
transmission/reception of e-mail data, the browsing of
10 the WWW (World Wide Web), the editing of image data
obtained by a digital camera, and the display of an
operation panel for the operation of an external device
via protocol communication means.

15 49. A data processing system according to claim
43, wherein said printing means prints said code
information at a predetermined time.

20 50. A data processing system according to claim
49, further comprising:
printing time setting means, for manually setting
said predetermined time.

25 51. A printing apparatus connected to a data
processing apparatus comprising:
input means, for receiving code data from said
signal processing apparatus; and

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printing means, for printing said code data
received from said input means,

wherein said signal processing apparatus allocates
different codes for multiple processes for performing
5 said multiple processes related to multiple functions,
controls said processing means for performing said
multiple processes in accordance with said allocated
codes, allocates a predetermined code for a specific
process of said multiple processes, allocates codes
10 other than said predetermined code for processes other
than said specific process, and outputs, to said
printing apparatus, code information that correlates
said multiple processes with said allocated codes.

52. A printing apparatus according to claim 51,
15 wherein said printing means prints said code
information at a predetermined time.

53. A printing apparatus according to claim 52,
20 further comprising:
printing time setting means, for manually setting
said predetermined time.

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